

### REMARKS

Claims 1-34 remain in the application for further prosecution. Claims 1, 23, and 33 have been amended. Claim 34 has not been amended since the use of the term “confidence factor” is now believed to be appropriate based upon the amendment to claim 33.

#### **Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 102(b)**

Independent claims 1 and 23 both include the limitation of utilizing “a plurality of time scales” (claim 1) or “multiple time scales” (claim 23). Both claims have been amended to include the limitation that each of the plurality of time scales are of a different duration. U.S. Pat. No. 5,796,259 (“Dickmander”) does not disclose a plurality of time scales, wherein each of the plurality of time scales are of a different duration. The Office Action cites to three different locations in the specification of Dickmander for disclosing a plurality of time scales: the abstract, column 2, lines 1-25; and column 4, lines 1-44. However, each of these citations disclose utilizing measurements from two different cycles, each of the *same* duration (a cycle). There is no disclosure of utilizing measurements from different time scales.

As stated in the specification of the present application, waveforms are examined on three different time scales: point-by-point; window-by-window; and cycle-by-cycle. Page 4, line 30 – page 5, line 5. The specification further describes the three different time scales (page 5, lines 3-11). The specification makes clear that the time scales are different durations.

Furthermore, there is no suggestion in Dickmander that the past and present cycles are measured on different time scales. In fact, for an accurate comparison, it would be assumed that the two cycles would be on the same time scale. Therefore, for at least this reason, claims 1, 23 and their dependents are believed to be allowable over the prior art.

Independent claims 14 and 31 includes the limitation of a circuit monitor that "computes a confidence factor for the direction of the disturbance event" (claim 14) and "computing a confidence factor for the direction of the disturbance event signal" (claim 31). As stated in the previous response, Dickmander does not disclose computing a confidence factor. Dickmander does disclose (as pointed out in the Office Action) computing the direction of the fault (whether downstream or upstream). *See* col. 4, ll. 32-40. There is no disclosure in Dickmander of also computing the confidence factor of whether the fault was downstream or upstream. Dickmander merely discloses that the fault occurs downstream or upstream.

The specification of the present invention describes assigning different confidence values to the direction if various events occur (e.g., if the three time scale comparisons all agree on the direction, then a high confidence value is assigned). *See* page 6, lines 5-24. As described in the specification of the present application, the system can give a confidence value that is expressed numerically or in relative terms (high confidence/low confidence). Page. 8, ll. 1-23. Dickmander only discloses determining the direction of the fault. There is no disclosure of how to assign a confidence factor to such a determination. For that reason, claims 14, 31, and their dependents are believed to be allowable over the prior art.

Claims 33-34 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Levert. Claim 33 has been amended to depend from claim 31, further describing how the confidence values are obtained. Levert is directed to detect power quality or disturbance events and then relaying information regarding the disturbance event to a central location. *See*, Abstract. The different power disturbances are characterized according to various parameters. *Id.* However, there is no mention of the different parameters or signals being used to compute a confidence factor for the direction of the disturbance event signal as now required by amended claim 33. Because claims 33 and 34 require computing a confidence value, they are believed to be allowable over Levert.

**Claim Rejections 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)**

Claim 10 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Dickmander. Claim 10 is dependent on claim 1 as is believed to be allowable over Dickmander for the reasons stated above in reference to claim 1.

Claims 16-22, 30 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Dickmander in view of Levert. Independent claim 16 includes the limitation that the branch circuit circuit monitor “independently detects a disturbance event and calculates a confidence factor for the disturbance direction.” As stated above in reference to claim 14, it is the Applicant’s belief that Dickmander does not disclose calculating a confidence factor for the disturbance direction. Dickmander discloses determining the direction of the disturbance, but nothing is said about the confidence in that determination.

Likewise, Levert does not disclose calculating "a confidence factor for the disturbance direction." As stated above in reference to claim 33, Levert discloses characterizing power events, but does not disclose calculating a confidence factor in any determination. Therefore, because Dickmander and Levert, either alone or in combination, disclose calculating a confidence factor in the disturbance event, claim 16 and its dependents are believed to be allowable.

Claim 30 is dependent upon claim 23 and therefore includes the limitation that the multiple time scales are each of a different duration. As stated above, Dickmander does not disclose this limitation. Neither does Levert. There is no discussion in Levert of time scales used. Therefore, for at least this reason, claim 30 is believed to be allowable.

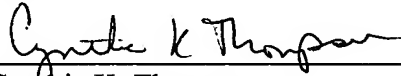
### **Conclusion**

The Applicants believe the claims are in condition for allowance, and action towards that end is earnestly solicited.

If any matters may be resolved or clarified through a telephone interview, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the Applicants' undersigned attorney at the number shown.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: December 28, 2005

  
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